

ABSTRACT

Stapler and ablation clamping heads can be interchangeably coupled to a hand-operated actuation mechanism using a quick connect/quick release coupling. In the actuation mechanism, a first user-operable lever controls clamping of the jaws of either head, while a second user-operable lever controls the firing of staples in the stapler head. A removable staple holder may be used with the stapler head to allow easy reloading of staples as well as the use of different sizes and type of staples. A corresponding removable anvil may be used as well. A removable electrode holder may be used with the ablation head to allow the use of different electrode configurations. Moreover, a removable electrode holder may be used over the jaws of a stapler head as an overlay.